

JORDAN - Critical Language Enhancement Award (CLEA)

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Academic Year 2012 – 2013

Background: The Critical Language Enhancement Award (CLEA) for Fulbright U.S. Students was originally developed as a component of the National Security Language Initiative (NSLI). The purpose of the Critical Language Enhancement Award is to cultivate language learning prior to and during the Fulbright grant period and beyond. Ultimately, critical language enhancement awardees will achieve a near-to or high level of proficiency in a targeted language and will go on to careers or further study that will incorporate the use of this and/or related languages.

The Critical Language Enhancement Awards provide funding for in-country language training to selected Fulbright U.S. student grantees to help expand and improve learning critical foreign languages among the U.S. population. The aim is to enrich the Fulbright experience and create deeper levels of communication in areas where mutual understanding is of growing importance. The Fulbright – CLEA initiative, in some ways similar to the pre-academic training segment of the Fulbright Foreign Student Program, provides additional language training opportunities for U.S. student participants who require a relatively high level of knowledge of a critical language for their studies.

Prior Language Study Requirement: A minimum of one full/intensive year of Arabic is required for favorable CLEA grant consideration.

Grant Period: For Jordan, participants can request either three (3) or up to six (6) months of in-country language training, depending on available CLEA funds. If the Fulbright application proposes research or study, the CLEA grant period must precede the Fulbright grant period. Concurrent CLEA and Fulbright grant periods are not permitted. A CLEA grant must be completed prior to beginning a Fulbright grant assignment in Jordan.

Terms and Conditions: In accepting a Critical Language Enhancement Award (CLEA), you agree to:

1. Abide by the regulations and supervision of the Binational Fulbright Commission in Jordan (hereinafter referred to as “**the Commission**”).
2. Attend all required language training as described in the applicable CLEA Line-item Benefits sections in the Fulbright Grant Agreement authorization document.
3. The CLEA language study program in Jordan will only be affiliated with the Qasid Institute (www.qasid.com). No other venues will be approved for grantees under the CLEA – Jordan Program. Additional fees above the amount stated on the CLEA Line-item Benefits sections of the Fulbright Grant Agreement, attendant to changes in the original language study plan, will not be reimbursed, except in exceptional cases subject to review and consideration by the Commission.
4. Engage in a minimum of 15 hours per week of full-time, formal classroom-based language study and a minimum of 3-6 hours per week of colloquial evening classes. Private tutoring is offered in the CLEA line-item grant benefits subject to the terms and conditions associated with this benefit, entitled “**Tutoring**” (below), which is part and parcel of the FULBRIGHT-CLEA Grant Agreement.

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5. Participate in continuous language study throughout the grant, as per the dates identified on the FULBRIGHT-CLEA Grant Agreement authorization document.
6. Complete all language training within the dates specified on the FULBRIGHT-CLEA Grant Agreement authorization document. Expenses for language training completed before or after that period will not be reimbursed.
7. If applicable, based on the FULBRIGHT-CLEA grant line-item benefit terms, submit written requests for vacation or other breaks in study to be approved by the Commission prior to commencing said vacation or break, as described in the Section entitled “**Vacations**” (below).
8. For FULBRIGHT-CLEA grantees to Jordan: no grant extensions are available. Similarly, requests from FULBRIGHT-CLEA grantees that involve shortening the CLEA grant period for any amount of time will only be considered by the Commission on a case-by-case basis.
9. For FULBRIGHT-CLEA grants of up-to three months, submit a Final Report detailing your experience, language growth, and feedback on program administration and general policies. For six-month CLEA grants, a Mid-Term Report is also expected. Mid-Term Reports should be submitted after the second month of study and final reports within one month of completing the language grant.
10. Be formally evaluated in the study language at least two weeks prior to beginning and, within two weeks of completing the Fulbright-Critical Language Enhancement Award.
11. Repay all costs associated with the Fulbright-Critical Language Enhancement Award, if you decline your Fulbright Full Grant after commencing the Critical Language Enhancement Award or before completing the full tenure of your Fulbright Grant assignment.
12. CLEA Grants in Jordan will only begin in the Fall academic term.

Acceptable Arabic language curriculum: Modern Standard Arabic and Colloquial (‘amiyya).

Tutoring: Unlike established approved language institutions, tutoring has proven to be an increasingly difficult component to regulate, especially for reimbursement and accounting purposes. The following are established CLEA - Jordan policies regarding tutors:

1. All Fulbright-Critical Language Enhancement Award grantees who have tutoring as part of their study plan, will need to obtain these qualified tutors in Jordan. Private tutoring will be approved on a case-by-case basis, such as if a student needs to learn very specific terminology for his/her Fulbright Grant’s research project goals. The Fulbright Commission in Jordan will be the approving-agency prior to the CLEA grantee hiring a tutor. The CLEA grantee must submit to the Commission a completed Private Tutoring Request Form (as part of the FULBRIGHT-CLEA Grant Agreement packet) for review and approval consideration.

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2. CLEA-Jordan grantees will complete and submit to the Commission on a monthly basis, the Tutoring Log Sheet and Payment Receipt Form (attached to the CLEA-Jordan Grant document). This Form must be signed by both the Grantee and the Tutor and submitted to the Commission on a monthly basis. This Form will take the place of individual, handwritten receipts.
3. The Tutoring Line-Item amount, if left unused during the 3 or 6 month CLEA grant, is the only part of the CLEA grant which may be carried-over and accessed during the Fulbright grant assignment.

Vacations (Holidays, Recesses, and Break Periods): Fulbright-Critical Language Enhancement Award grantees are expected to fulfill the minimum number of instruction hours per week. The Commission will provide guidance for this aspect. The following rules apply:

1. ***For CLEA grant durations of 3 months:*** The grantee may take up to one week (7 days) of vacation without deduction in grant benefits if such absence is approved by the Commission. No grantee may request a vacation or leave of absence while the language study courses are in session. Insofar as possible, any vacation period should correspond with a local holiday period or recess at the language institution (Qasid).
2. ***For CLEA grant durations of 6 months:*** The grantee may take up to two (2) weeks (14 days) of vacation without deduction in grant benefits if such absence is approved by the Commission. No grantee may request a vacation or leave of absence while the language study courses are in session. Insofar as possible, any vacation period should correspond with a local holiday period or recess at the language institution (Qasid).
3. In-Country, Regional or International travel is permitted during these breaks; however, Fulbright-CLEA language award recipients are responsible for their own travel expenses during study breaks. Grantees may not leave Jordan without prior approval of the Commission. Grantees should be aware that any travel outside of Jordan is not covered under the U.S. Department of State Accident and Sickness Program for Exchanges (ASPE). Any leave taken during the Critical Language Enhancement Award is separate from and in addition to the two weeks of vacation which can be authorized under the Fulbright Full Grant.

Extensions: For grantees with Fulbright-Critical Language Enhancement Awards in Jordan, grant extensions will not be considered. Similarly, requests from CLEA grantees that involve shortening the CLEA grant period are not encouraged but in rare situations, such requests will be reviewed and considered by the Commission.

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